



KIRKWALL EAST LINKED WITH SHAPINSAY CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

February 2021



Dear all,

Welcome to this February issue of our church newsletter. This month we begin Lent with an Ash Wednesday service to kick off the season of preparation for Easter – it will be pre-recorded and available from the morning on Wednesday the 17th of February. Then Fairtrade Fortnight which runs between the 22nd of February and the 2nd March will be marked during our Sunday worship on the 28th February.

FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT
22 FEBRUARY – 7 MARCH



Below you can find the usual ways of accessing our services both online and over the phone but we'd like to encourage you to use this time of prolific online worship by worshipping with other churches and other denominations. It is so easy to join with others online—please use this opportunity to be together with other Christians. Feel the blessing of this fellowship.

Locally, a number of churches offer online worship, including the Baptist church (their Sunday morning services at 11:15am continue on their Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/KirkwallBaptistChurch>), Life Church Orkney (with streamed 11am Sunday Services—more info on <http://www.lifechurchorkney.com/>) or the Catholic Church (Mass is celebrated at 11:00 each day, except Tuesday, and live streamed via their Facebook Page: <https://facebook.com/catholicchurchorkney>).

Nationally, many Church of Scotland congregations offer online worship. A list of some of them is available here: <https://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/worship/services-online>. You can join with congregations in Stornoway (<https://www.martinsmemorial.org.uk/>), Stirling (<http://dynamic.church123.com/podcast/fa082e78-97f1-41e2-8431-34d4243a3ff3>) or even Brussels (<https://www.churchofscotland.be/>). Many more are available globally too. Have a browse and be part of this worldwide Christian family.

Enter this period of Lent with a true gratitude for our brothers and sisters in Christ.

With every blessing.

Julia

You can access our services in any one of four ways:

- * Through Kirkwall East linked with Shapinsay and Kirkwall Council of Churches Facebook pages where our joint services will be published every Sunday
- * Through the YouTube channel: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC7Yg_uFSQsU7UWDC2SSnyCA or search for Kirkwall East Church, Shapinsay Church or Moncur Memorial Church.
- * By dialling 01856 404667 from your phone and listening to the audio recording of the service. You will be charged as you would normally be for a local phone call (and that of course depends on your contract).
- * By getting a script of the service by e-mail (do contact Julia if you would like that).

KNOWING JESUS: ISC Lent Online Retreat 2021

Get to know and love Jesus Christ better in order to live a deeper and more authentic Christian life of service.

Jesus was quite a character with a message and way of acting that was as counter-cultural in his day as it would be in ours. Going back to the roots of Christianity to the man who is its foundation gives a deeper understanding of what the faith is really about and a challenge for living.

Weekly topics include:

- * Jesus, his prayer and the Father
- * Jesus' Family and Friends
- * Jesus' Teachings
- * Jesus reaches out to the needy
- * The emotional Jesus
- * Jesus under Attack
- * The Resurrected Jesus

The retreat for 2021 is from Ash Wednesday, 17th February to the First Sunday of Easter, 11th April.

Time for Prayer: Ideally you should be able to find a time to pray with the Scripture or other material daily; anything from 15 minutes to an hour a day, whatever you find helps you.

Weekly Meeting: The idea of this retreat is that groups of people support each other. Each person prays daily individually, and then various groups meet weekly together to see how the prayer has been going. This will support you in your prayer and help you see where God is in your prayer and in your life. It will also introduce you to different ways of praying with Scripture.

Prayer Materials: Choose what is most convenient for you: we provide the materials online for a computer or smartphone. Every day there is one passage from Scripture plus 'A Thought for Today' a piece of music and a picture to ponder. We also give a few suggestions on how to pray with the day's materials.

Reflecting on Prayer; We suggest that after each day's prayer you jot down in a journal a few notes on how the prayer has gone. This will help your sharing in the group if you have one. It will also be interesting to reflect on how things are moving during Lent and see whether you discern any patterns in the way God is dealing with you.

[The BBC Radio 4 Daily Service](#) will be taking up the themes of this week. So this will be an additional way to immerse yourself in this retreat.

You can find more information about the retreat on: www.iscglasgow.co.uk



A word from the e-Organist.

A long, long time ago, in a church not too far away, I used to play the organ every Sunday. Preparing three voluntaries and, about, five hymns then playing them live at the service on a Sunday morning. The news was full of some illness facing deepest, darkest other side of the world but we carried on regardless. Then came lock down and the sudden, cold realisation that church could not meet. We were in uncharted waters (to say the least). On the first weekend that we could not meet Andrea, James, and I made a recording of *Be still and know that I am God*. We published it on the church Facebook page. Then Julia and I made a trial e-service and e-messy church. To say we were flying by the seat of our pants and on a rather steep and spiralling learning curve would be an understatement. But that was March and since we have done two services each week with all the church seasons and extras too. Fortunately over the year the team has grown and we've been able to share the load. Now my role is to prepare the music for each service.

Firstly, Julia lets everyone involved know her choice of hymns. Helen and William Stevenson then make PowerPoint documents with the words and then it's over to me. Spoiler alert...I am going to shatter illusions and explain how I make the music. I am afraid I cheat. I cannot play all the instruments of the world nor do I have bands and orchestras at my disposal. I have a 'dummy' MIDI keyboard (it does not make any sounds) and some software called Logic Pro. Each hymn has five or six tracks that are recorded separately and then played together. When the tune and parts have each been recorded I can assign these to different sounds (my favourites include a mediaeval recorder, Celtic tin whistle, and the moon-rise space walk synth pad). Sometimes I add descants or solos: anything that adds to the meaning of the words. When I have all this done I add the vocals (usually me but sometimes Andrea). I then import my music file into Helen and William's words file, time the page changes so that the words change with the music and then export the lot as a movie file. This then can be slotted into the service films. On average it takes about one to two hours per hymn. The announcement of the services on Facebook often have a piece of music. This is recorded live. The Church of Scotland allow for the organist to visit the church for 10 minutes per week to check that the organ is working. I record the piece during this time. Fortunately, Melba has a magic watch that makes that 10 mins extend! It is time and labour intensive to produce the music but it is worth it if it helps people worship.

I long for the end of lock down and the resumption of 'normal' services. I really miss seeing everyone each week. Until then keep safe and singing away during the services. Let me know if there is any music you would like me to include and the door is always open for contributions from others (any creative work, not just music).





TRAIDCRAFT Exchange

Say yes to green trade (and no to fossil fuels)

Will you tell the UK to join the
green trade agreement?

Every year, the UK spends £10 billion subsidising coal, oil, and gas. Meanwhile, climate disasters hit the poorest countries hardest.

A team of countries including New Zealand, Norway, and Costa Rica have a plan to end fossil fuel subsidies and help green businesses to thrive.

We want the UK to join their green trade agreement and get serious about tackling climate change.

Add your name here: <https://traidcraftexchange.org/accts>.

FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT
22 FEBRUARY – 7 MARCH



Fairtrade Fortnight is coming shortly, and in Orkney we want to promote an opportunity for children and young people to share their ideas about the world they want to see. The Fairtrade Foundation is organising an online festival of art work of all kinds: prose and poetry, drawing and painting, photography and video, on the theme "Choose the World You Want". This is open to all aged five to twenty five and is non-competitive; a selection of submissions will be published throughout Fairtrade Fortnight. The closing date is March 1st.

Orkney Fair Trade Group will complement this by publishing work by children and young people from our islands, on our Facebook page daily. We are also hoping to keep the material so that we can organise a live exhibition locally once conditions allow for such events.

Entry is by simple email to schools@fairtrade.org.uk copied to orkneyfairtradegroup@gmail.com

More details are available in the attached flier.

This may be of interest to children and young people in your congregation, or as a Sunday School or Messy Church activity, or as part of your work as an Eco or Fairtrade Congregation. We'd be very grateful if you could publicise it. Do feel free to use the attached flier/poster for this, though for entry to the local exhibition it is important to ensure that we are copied in. We have contacted schools already of course.

Please get in touch if you have any queries.

We'd also love to hear from you if you are planning special services or activities during Fairtrade Fortnight, so that we can include these in our calendar and publicity.

Best regards

Gill Smee, Secretary,
Orkney Fair Trade Group



St Magnus Way

The St Magnus Way team is a small but enthusiastic group and we are always on the look out for volunteers. At present we are very keen to find someone that would be willing to coordinate and develop our merchandise. This would involve being willing to take orders and distribute them as well as helping the trustees develop new merchandise. We are also keen to have anyone that enjoys walking keep an eye on a section, however long they are happy with, to walk it monthly and let us know if there are any issues needing dealt with. Should anyone be interested in helping us to develop the St Magnus Way and be one of our team we would be very happy to hear from them. More information available from Stuart Little sglittle123@gmail.com or 781497.

SHARE YOUR VISION OF THE WORLD YOU WANT



Our choices are powerful. Their effects can reach far beyond us. They can help us shape the world we want. The daily decisions you make about what to eat, drink and wear affect the lives of people around the world – and the health of our planet.

This Fairtrade Fortnight, we're focusing on the choices we all make every day.

WHAT DOES THE WORLD YOU WANT TO SEE LOOK LIKE?

Young people between the ages of 5 and 25 are invited to share their vision of the world they want for farmers and workers worldwide, and the planet we share. Create your vision for the world you want, for the planet and everything on it, to celebrate Fairtrade Fortnight 2021.



Share your artwork, poem, prose or film for a chance for your work to be exhibited in the online Youth Exhibition at the **Choose the world you want** festival between 22 February and 7 March 2021.

Email your vision masterpiece to schools@fairtrade.org.uk with the subject line **CHOOSE THE WORLD YOU WANT** stating **your name and age** in the email.

Submit your vision by 1 March 2021!

N.B. By submitting your piece, you consent to it being used in the Youth Exhibition at the festival during Fairtrade Fortnight 2021, and for promotional use thereafter.

TOP TIPS FOR YOUR EXHIBITION PIECE

- ✓ If an image, try to take a clear photo in natural lighting. Try to fill the whole frame with your artwork.
- ✓ If a video, it must be shot in landscape, not portrait, and shared with us via a link to the video on YouTube or Vimeo.
- ✓ If you have written a poem or prose, please keep it to a maximum of one side of A4 and share electronically as an email, Word document or PDF.
- ✓ Remember to get consent from a parent or guardian!

Illustrations: Tolmeia Gregory

**CHOOSE THE WORLD
YOU WANT**



Orkney Children's Panel members needed

Children's Panel members are part of the Children's Hearings System. The Scottish Government fund the system and Children's Hearings Scotland support the 3,000 volunteers throughout Scotland.

Panel members take part in Children's Hearings. With two other Panel members, you will get written and spoken information from the young person, their family, Social Work and anyone else who needs to be involved. The information is to help you decide what is in the best interest of the young person at this point in their life – to ensure they are safe, loved, valued and respected.

It is a rewarding role and valuable to children and the community. You do not need any formal qualifications, but you need to be a good listener, compassionate, empathetic and trustworthy and relate to young people in difficult circumstances. You need to be able to read and understand sometimes detailed reports. Digital training will be provided as part of the training.

You can **apply at www.chscotland.gov.uk** or if you want to find out more about how things work in Orkney, please contact Annette Feeney at annette.feeney@chscotland.scot. We have an online information event on Wednesday 3rd February at 7:30 when you can speak to Panel members to get a real feel for the role. You will need to register for this event so we can send you a Microsoft Teams invite, please email Annette.

The closing dates for applications is 15th February 2021.



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Qualities you use every day make a
real difference in your community.

Find out more at
CHSCOTLAND.GOV.UK

 children's
hearings
scotland

Christmas Gift Bags: Thank You

We would like to thank all of you who participated in the baking, making, buying and donating to the Christmas Gift bags last year. We could not have done it without all your support. We made up 50 bags which were sold and we also managed to sell the remaining items to add to the funds.

The money raised was £1,088.20.

We hope you had a good Christmas and that the New Year 2021 will be a better year than last year.

Take care and may God be with you

Rona Harcus, Helen Stevenson, Andrea Massey and Anne Moore.

Spend a Penny for Malawi

Orkney Presbytery have an ongoing fund raising appeal for our Orkney Malawi Boreholes project—The “Spend a Penny for Malawi” appeal. The idea is to count the number of times we wash our hands per day and donate a penny per hand-wash! It is 9 weeks to Easter so a penny a wash would work out at a donation of about 10p a day or somewhere between £5 - £10 by Easter. Of course a donation of 50p or £50 is just as welcome!

So if you could think about saving some pennies and donating at Easter it would be much appreciated by our Malawi friends! They are needing fresh water more than ever, not just to drink but for hand washing.

The Covid situation over there is not good and they do not have hand gel of course! So please spread the word and let's try and get another borehole for a village.

For the East Kirk, please contact James Watson on 873157 if you have any questions about donating or Gift Aid. Money can be left at the East Kirk On a Saturday. Any cash must be left in a sealed envelop with the amount and the name of the donor.

For Shapinsay, please contact Sheila Garson on 711779.